

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CAIRO 03951 071856Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-05 H-01 AID-05
SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 /051 W
-----080239Z 059736 /66
R 071636Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
O RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2470
USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAIRO 3951

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PROP, EG, UR, US
SUBJECT: DISINFORMATION

REF: CAIRO 3640

1. IN ITS ISSUE WHICH APPEARED MARCH 5, ROSE AL YUSUF CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF FORGED DOCUMENT CASE BY REPORTING ON CALL PAO AND IO MADE MARCH 1 ON BOARD CHAIRMAN SHARAQI (REFTTEL). STORY FILLS TOP HALF LAST PAGE UNDER HEADLINE "THE AMERICAN EMBASSY VISITS ROSE AL YUSUF AND EXPLAINS STATEMENT WHICH IT ISSUED" STORY IS ALSO NOTED ON COVER AND IN THE MAGAZINE'S REGULAR PROMOTIONAL ADS IN DAILY NEWSPAPER MARCH 5. TRANSLATION OF TEXT FOLLOWS:

2. (BEGIN QUOTE) BOTH THE PRESS COUNSELLOR AND THE CULTURAL COUNSELLOR

OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY PAID A SPECIAL VISIT TO ROSE AL YUSUF THIS WEEK. MR. GREGORY MOFFITT AND DR. WILLIAM RUGH, BOTH CONFIRMED THAT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY STATEMENT CONCERNING THE DOCUMENT WHICH ROSE AL YUSUF PUBLISHED LAST FEBRUARY DID NOT INTEND TO CALL THE MAGAINZE A LIAR OR CAST DOUBT ON ITS HONESTY OR ACCUSE IT OF FORGERY. THEY SAID THAT THE DOCUMENT INVOLVED IN (THE STATEMENT) HAD BEEN RECEIVED BY MORE THAN ONE EGYPTIAN QUARTER, AND THAT ROSE AL YSUF'S PUBLICATION OF IT WAS AN ACT OF ITS OWN JOURNALISTIC AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CAIRO 03951 071856Z

NATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND THE STATEMENT OF THE EMBASSY WAS NOT AT

ALL A PROTEST AGAINST THE ACTION OF PUBLISHING (IT). THE TWO VISITORS TALKED ABOUT THE NEW POLICY OF PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER AND DESCRIBED IT AS AN ETHICAL POLICY EMANATING FROM THE FACT THAT THE NEW PRESIDENT - LIKE PRESIDENT SADAT - IS A FARMER WHO HOLDS TO ETHICS AND MORALITY OF THE COUNTRYSIDE.

AT THE END OF THE VISIT, THE VISITORS ASKED: WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU WANT FROM THE AMERICANS AS A SIGN OF GOOD INTENTIONS? ABDAL RAHAMN SHARQAWI ANSWERED FOR ROSE AL YUSUF: WE WANT YOU TO HELP EGYPT. THE TWO VISITORS CONFIRMED THAT AMERICAN HAS DONE ITS BEST AND THAT IT AGREED ON JOINT PROJECTS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED, AND THAT IT WILL NOT BE MISERLY WITH NEW ASSISTANCE. HOWEVER IT IS NOT ABLE ALONE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE EGYPTIAN ECONOMY. HOWEVER THE ARABS ARE ABLE TO DO THAT.

AMERICAN CAN NOT CONVINCE THEM TO PLAY THAT ROLE, BUT EGYPT CAN, BECAUSE AMERICA IS JUST A FRIEND OF THE ARAB OIL COUNTRIES, WHILE EGYPT IS A BROTHER AND A MEMBER OF THE FAMILY*

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY STATEMENT OF COURSE DID AVOID DIRECT CRITICISM OF MAGAZINE FOR PUBLISHING FORGERY, BUT IMPLICATION WAS CLEAR. PAO, IN DISCUSSION WITH SHARQAWI, URGED HE IN FUTURE CHECK OUT SUCH QUESTIONABLE DOCUMENTS WITH US BEFORE DECIDING TO PRINT THEM. LATEST ROSE ARTICLE IGNORES THESE ASPECTS OF EMBASSY POSITION, INSTEAD ATTEMPTS DIVERT BLAME FROM MAGAINZE BY STRESSING THAT WE DID NOT PUBLICLY ATTACK ROSE BY NAME. WHILE THIS IS NOT BLANCED REPORTING, NEITHER IS IT OUTRIGHT FABRICATION WHICH WE NEED TO REACT TO. PORTION OF STORY DESCRIBING DISCUSSION OF PRESIDENT CARTER AND U.S. CONCERN TO ASSIST EGYPT IS REASONABLY HELPFUL TO US, ALTHOUGH NOT WRITTEN THE WAY WE WOULD HAVE DONE IT. MOST OF IT BASED ON A FEW OF THE POINTS PAO MADE, EXCEPT FOR LAST TWO SENTENCES IN ARTICLE WHICH WERE NOT UTTERED DURING CONVERSATION BUT WHICH WILL PROBABLY NOT DO US ANY PARTICULAR HARM.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 CAIRO 03951 071856Z

4. SAME ISSUE OF MAGAZINE CARRIES ARTICLE WRITTEN BY USIS LONG-TIME LOCAL EMPLOYEE MUHAMMAD ALI NASSEF, WRITTEN ENTIRELY ON OWN INITIATIVE OUT OF DESIRE ACHIEVE BETTER EGYPTIAN APPRECIATION OF USG EFFORTS TO ASSIST EGYPT. (PAO HAS SPOKEN TO HIM ABOUT DOING THIS WITHOUT CONSULTING WITH US). MAGAINZE PRINTED PIECE ESSENTIALLY AS WRITTEN. AUTHOR BEGINS BY EXPRESSING "SURPRISE AT THE ATTEMPT TO CAST DOUBTS ON AMERICA'S POLICY TOWARD EGYPT'S ECONOMIC OPEN DOOR POLICY", WHEN "AMERICAN WANTS THE EGYPTIAN ECONOMY TO STAND ON ITS FEET BECUASE IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF AMERICANS THEMSELVES." AUTHOR SAYS THAT AS EMPLOYEE OF US EMBASSY HE IS IN POSITION TO EVALUATE ASPECTS OF THIS QUESTION. SAYS HE WISHES "SEIZE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PUT ON RECORD..MY GRATITUDE TO MR. HERMANN EILTS AND THE TEAM WHICH WORKS WITH HIM FOR HIS EFFORTS TO PROMOTE GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN HIS COUNTRY AND MY COUNTRY AND TO IMPROVE EGYPT'S ECONOMIC POSITION." AUTHOR DELCARES HE HAS NO INTENTION TO FLATTER US AMBASSADOR, JUST WISHES TO STATE FACTS. AS EVIDENCE OF LAUDATORY USG POLICY HE CITES FOLLOWING:

(A) AMBASSADOR'S MEMORANDA TO EMBASSY STAFF AND TO U.S. BUSINESS-
MEN ASKING THEM TO HELP PROMOTE MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL TRADE AND
INVESTMENT (TRANSLATION OF LATTER MEMO IS PRINTED BY MAGAZINE);
(B) THE MANY BILATERAL ECONOMIC AIR AGREEMENTS;
(C) AMBASSADOR'S COMMENT TO LOUIS AWAD, (WHO ASKED FOR ASSISTANCE
TO REBUILD OPERA HOUSE), THAT "LIST OF ECONOMIC AID PROJECTS NOT
CLOSED" BUT AID IS GOVERNED BY PRIORITIES SET BY TWO GOVERNMENTS;
(D) U.S. AID TO EGYPT IN TWO YEARS IS GREATER THAN ARAB AID SINCE
1967, WHICH SHOWS "MAGNITUDE OF (US) EFFORT AND GOOD INTENTIONS
BEHIND THIS POLICY WHICH SHOULD BE MET WITH GRATITUDE"
(E) "INTELLIGENT AND CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE" OF AMBASSADOR IN VISIT
BY ABOUT 300 CONGRESS MEMBERS IN THREE YEARS.
MAGAINZE IN COMMENT SAYS IF THIS MESSAGE IS MEANT TO ANSWER
DOCUMENT ROSE PUBLISHED TWO WEEKS AGO, MAGZINE "DID NOT INVENT"
DOCUMENT BUT MERELY PUBLISHED IT. ADDS: "WE RESPECT THE RIGHT OF
NASSEF TO TESTIFY TO WHAT HE KNOWS AND WE DO NOT DOUBT THAT HE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 CAIRO 03951 071856Z

SAID THE TRUTH. BUT WE ALSO RESPECT THE RIGHT ON PUBLIC OPINION
TO READ DOCUMENTS WHICH AFFECT ITS FUTURE."

5. COMMENT: INITIAL REACTION TO NASSEF ARTICLE VERY POSITIVE.
SEVERAL EGYPTIANS HAVE MADE POINT OF SAYING IT IS SINCERE AND
EFFECTIVE STATEMENT. NASSEF WIDELY KNOWN AMONG JOURNALISTS, HAS
CREDIBILITY. THUS SO FAR, DIALOGUE WITH ROSE
HAVE BEEN ON BALANCE HELPFUL TO US, BUT WE THINK IT TIME TO DROP
FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH ROSE ON SUBJECT OF SPURIOUS DOCUMENT,
DIALOGUE FROM TIME TO TIME ON OTHER MATTERS MAY HAVE SOME
VALUE.
MATTHEWS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROPAGANDA, FORGERY, DOCUMENTS, PRESS RELEASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAIRO03951
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770078-0813
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770387/aaaacyuu.tel
Line Count: 151
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 785b81bc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 CAIRO 3640
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3190335
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DISINFORMATION
TAGS: PFOR, PROP, EG, UR, US, ROSE AL-YUSUF
To: STATE USIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/785b81bc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009